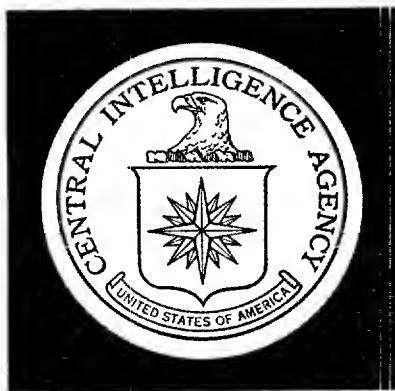


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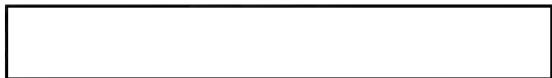
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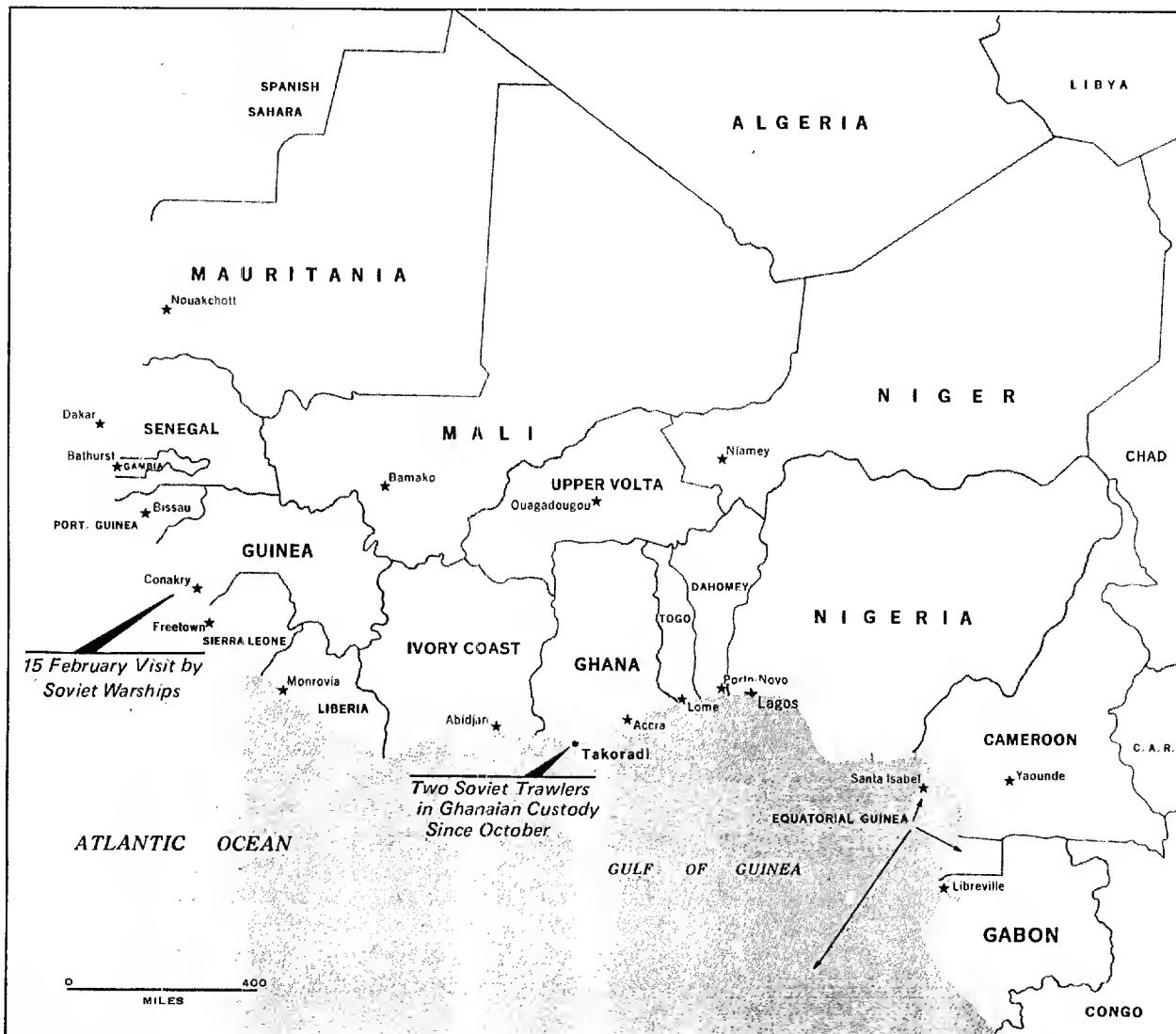
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SOVIET WARSHIPS MAKE UNPRECEDENTED VISIT IN WEST AFRICA



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NOTE

USSR - West Africa: Four Soviet naval ships which arrived without advance public announcement in Guinea on 15 February will sail for Nigeria on 20 February.

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A visit by Soviet combatant ships is unprecedented in West Africa, and there are indications that the visits were scheduled at the last minute. Moscow probably hopes that the presence of the ships, which may pass near Ghanaian territorial waters en route to Lagos, will aid its efforts to obtain release of two Soviet trawlers and their crews detained by Ghana since October.

(Map)

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